GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:168
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2016
Social Security Schemes for Plantation Workers
Rajesh Shri M. B.

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a)the details of social security schemes under implementation for plantation workers along with the funds made available and utilised during the last two years and the current year, scheme-wise;
(b)whether the Government proposes to bring EPF pensioners and plantation workers under the purview of Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana and if so, the details and the present status thereof; and
(c)the time by which the said proposal is likely to be completed?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.168 FOR 28.11.2016 BY SHRI M.B. RAJESH REGARDING "SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES FOR PLANTATION WORKERS".

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(a): The plantation workers working in the organized sector are entitled to social security benefits available under the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972, the Employees' Compensation Act, 1923, the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 and the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and three schemes namely Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, 1952, Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 and Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme, 1976.
Funds under these Acts and schemes are not allocated as such. Rather, benefits under these Acts and schemes framed thereunder are availed by the employees as and when eligible for the same.
Further, a Group Insurance Scheme for the benefit of unorganized workers working in small tea gardens is being implemented by the Tea Board. This Scheme provides benefit in the event of death or any disablement for coverage of Rs.2 lakhs with a nominal premium of Rs.14/- per person per annum to be shared between Tea Board and the worker in the ratio of 75%:25% i.e. Rs.10.50 and Rs.3.50 respectively.
(b): No proposal is under consideration of the Government at present to bring Employees Provident Fund (EPF) pensioners and plantation workers under the purview of Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana.
(c): Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) of the Question above.
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